
Correspondence: Mrs. John P. Varnum
(Josephine L. Dyer "Josie"), 1871 - 1888

John P. Varnum Family Papers

2-2-1888

Letter: Mrs. Josephine L. Dyer Varnum to Mammy, February 02, 1888

Josephine L. Dyer Varnum

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Jacksonville Feb. 2nd 1888

Dear Hammy:-

I was real glad to get your letter this morning - I have been afraid the cold you have been having might make you sick. It must have been dreadful - Genl Tammam writes us though that he did not feel the cold at Kansas City (it was 20° below when he arrived there) any more than the others seemed to. He is ~~coming~~ from Denver which he seems to prefer to Kansas City - he says the spring and summer in the latter are ~~not~~. He is very anxious to settle near us or to have us near him. John wrote him last night to make particular inquiries with regard to Walter &c. I had taken quite a fancy to Kansas City and dislike to have my air castles upset but of course John's health is an all important object. I make some allowance however for the Genl's prejudices which are apt to be pretty strong if anything starts them - I should like ~~to~~ ^{have} to go ~~East~~ East on your account. I should be so glad to have you have a home with me aside from that I don't know as I care very much. It is one of my greatest comforts when we have any troubles that none of

my dear relatives can know of them - Right now with regard to anything that Em can have told about my possessions I don't know any more than you do what has been sent me that had no right to come here - I may have shown Emma that apron made from the square of Grandmother Howard's I don't remember I am sure, I think it more likely that I didn't because I shouldn't have supposed she would take the slightest interest in it - It has just occurred to me that the children may have said something about my big silver spoon being my great-grandmother's and she has jumped at the conclusion that it was my great grandmother Howard's - The only other thing of any importance that I remember her seeing was that quilt that you sent me I might have spoken of its having been yours I don't remember Howard - I don't care, except that I don't want you worried about these things, I should really like to have them specify for if I have got an heirloom I would like to know it - I think your selection for Grandpa's shawl a very good one I can't think of any better.

We have had another disappointment in our case it has been put off until the 20th on account of the sickness of a most important witness - It is very try-

ing and yet perhaps for the best. John got hold of additional testimony yesterday which may be important.

The T. U. appears to be doing well though it is said that Jones has a hard pull of it - Fletcher is a Maryland man he was managing editor of the F. Y. Evening Sun but had consumptive tendencies. He must have abilities or he could not have held so important a position on that paper but he does not understand the situation here and I don't know what drawbacks he may have, but he is not making a good paper at any rate. The editorial page has no character and there is a terrible lack of local news and what does go in isn't written up at all. They have placed altogether too much dependence on their superiority from a money point. They seem to have thought that because John is seriously interfered with the T. U.'s prosperity with so little capital that ten times as much would drive C. K. to the North pole. But if we can only get our money out we shan't complain. I am not specially interested in Mr. Chardance - I don't admire him. I have about the same opinion of him that that Minneapolis editor had.

people who went from here to Atlanta - (democrats
who were reported in the newspapers interviews as
very much pleased with Mr C) say privately that
personally he is disgusting in appearance, they say
that the comic papers can't caricature him &c -

Anna is very well indeed she is pining at me as
I write. John buys Bananas for her to eat her face when
she eats them - Edie says she should think I would get
a chestnut bell and ring it when folks tell me how fat
my children are - Archie is very much pleased to
get his papers he has been looking for them for several
days I told him the cold weather had probably
prevented you from sending them -

The children are all here and I hardly know what
I am writing - I will try to get the Times Herald that
you wished for but don't know as I can get them
that is the Sub-Tropical number is it not -

It is a gray day looks like snow - I am finishing off
a little gingham dress for Edie I made the skirt before
I went away last summer and took it with me
to finish but she didn't need it and I have just cut
and made waist and sleeves -

I have thought over so many times lately
but couldn't think of it when writing that you

might sell father's saddle not now of course but
in the spring. You could get some one to tell you
how much it was worth and then I think a
little "ad" is the best way. I suppose it cost any-
where from \$20 to \$30 but it would be better to get
\$10 than nothing. I think your Sattler is very
pretty indeed. The others will make up pretty too I think.
Hannie's is very funny but the figures are so small it
is not objectionable. Aunt O's black dress is very handsome.
I think. What do you call the wool goods?

Friday morning. I didn't get my letter finished last
night. and just thought I would say good-morning
Ara is toddling about eating a biscuit and singing to it
with all her might she tries to talk a good deal she calls
my thimble which she is very fond of a "tibble"
crackers are "tackups". Well I must go to work.
With a great deal of love
Josie.